

--Abstract of the Disclosure

The presented invention relates to monoclonal antibodies useful in sensitive and specific immunological assays for the identification of prions in various tissues and body fluids, the production of such monoclonal antibodies by means of immunization of  $\text{PrP}^{0/0}$  mice by means of a new recombinant fragment of  $\text{PrP}$  and the use of the antibodies, e.g. for therapeutic and preventive treatments of humans and animals suffering from prion diseases.—